



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

13 DECEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Costa Mesa – Woman Charged with Stealing \$300K from California Retailers

(U) Last month, Ekaterina Zharkova, 38, was arrested after an investigator with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Organized Retail Theft Task Force saw her stealing from a Nordstrom Rack in Costa Mesa. When members of the task force searched her apartment, they found more than \$328,000 worth of stolen merchandise. Investigators believe she attempted to sell stolen merchandise through a luxury online consignment store. Officials charged Zharkova with four felony counts of grand theft, one felony count of receiving stolen property, and seven misdemeanor counts of petty theft. She faces up to nine-years in prison if convicted on all counts. Zharkova pleaded not guilty in August and September in two separate grand theft charges.

SOURCE: 11 December 2021, [The Pantagraph](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Shots Fired Near Where Mourners Gathered on Hollywood Walk of Fame

(U) The Los Angeles Police Department is investigating a shooting approximately 500-feet from where mourners gathered to remember singer Vicente Fernández on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Witnesses said they saw a person's arm holding a handgun from an upper story window in the apartment building across the street from the memorial and heard four-or-five shots fired in a block east of Vine Street. The shots blew out at least one window of a nearby business, but police reported no injuries. Officials provided no additional details, but the police did take a suspect into custody.

SOURCE: 12 December 2021, [FOXLA](#)

(U) Mill Valley – Man Who Fled to Belarus After January 6 Riot is Hit with 14 Criminal Charges

(U) Evan Neumann, 49, of Mill Valley, has been charged with 14 crimes in absentia. Neumann fled the country in February after he allegedly used a metal barricade to attack police during the January 6 riots. Officials believe Neumann is currently living in Belarus and the only international fugitive charged in connection to the US Capitol riot. Video footage of Neumann from police bodycam footage surfaced where he stood near police in front of barricades set up at the base of the West Front of the US Capitol Building. Neumann allegedly assaulted three Metropolitan Police Department Officers and one Capitol Police officer in the attack.

SOURCE: 12 December 2021, [DailyMail](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Investigation Underway into Border Shooting at San Ysidro Port of Entry

(U) San Diego – Around 9:30 PM Sunday, an officer-involved shooting took place at the San Ysidro port of entry along the border between San Diego and Tijuana. According to US Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), a vehicle driving from Mexico into the United States tried to drive at a high rate of speed through the screening lanes where CBP Officers were posted to monitor northbound traffic. The vehicle, driven by a sole occupant, crashed into the back of another car in the traffic lane and tried to drive around that

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car. As this was occurring, one CBP officer fired his weapon multiple times. The vehicle was struck, but the driver was not injured. CBP officers proceeded to take the driver into custody and worked to identify the subject.

SOURCE: 13 December 2021, [CBS8](#)

(U) Texas – Thirty-One Migrants Found in Crowded Stash Houses

(U) Socorro – US CBP Agents assigned to the Ysleta Station Anti-Smuggling Unit helped Socorro Police Department officers apprehend migrants hiding in stash houses in Socorro and Clint. The CBP agents took 31 migrants into custody in the two separate incidents. Among those encountered were citizens from Ecuador, El Salvador, and Mexico. Among the migrants were two unaccompanied children, one from Guatemala and another from Mexico. The two children were medically screened and found to be in good health.

SOURCE: 10 December 2021, [KOMO News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Texas – More than 300 Arrested by US Marshals in Gulf Coast Crime Sweep

(U) Corpus Christi – The US Marshals Service announced the end of a 26-long-week, multiagency crime sweep, resulting in the arrest of more than 350 people on the Gulf Coast. The action, dubbed "Operation Triple Beam - Third Coast," targeted documented gang members and violent offenders and sought to identify targets and collect criminal intelligence. The operation began on 7 April and ended on 30 September. Officials seized 86 firearms, 32.971-kilograms of narcotics and \$4,360,968, and charged criminals with various charges, including capital murder, sex offenses, and arson. Among the agencies participating in the operation were the Corpus Christi Police Department; Nueces County Sheriff's Office; Texas Department of Public Safety; Homeland Security Investigations; US Drug Enforcement Administration; and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

SOURCE: 11 December 2021, [CNN](#)

(U) Virginia – Leading ISIS Media Figure and Foreign Fighter Pleads Guilty

(U) Alexandria – Mohammed Khalifa, aka Abu Ridwan Al-Kanadi and Abu Muthanna Al-Muhajir, 38, pleaded guilty to conspiring to provide material support to the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). According to court documents, the Saudi-born Canadian citizen served in prominent roles within ISIS starting in 2013 and continuing until his capture by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in January 2019, following a firefight between ISIS fighters and the SDF. In addition to serving as a fighter and executing two Syrian soldiers on behalf of ISIS, Khalifa served as a lead translator in ISIS's propaganda production and the English-speaking narrator on multiple ISIS videos. Khalifa provided the narration and translation for approximately 15 videos created and distributed by ISIS. The productions narrated by Khalifa include two of the most influential and exceedingly violent ISIS propaganda videos.

SOURCE: 10 December 2021, [US DOJ](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Burkina Faso – Joint Military Forces from Burkina Faso and Niger Kill Roughly 100 Extremists

(U) Ouagadougou – The armies of Burkina Faso and neighboring Niger have killed around 100 Islamic extremists in a joint military operation on the border between 25 November and 9 December. The troops neutralized around 100 extremists during the operation and detained around 20 suspicious individuals. They also dismantled two bases, one in Kokoloukou in western Niger and another in

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Yeritagui in eastern Burkina Faso. Both sides deployed foot soldiers and surveillance and combat aircraft during the operation.

SOURCE: 12 December 2021, [France 24](#)

(U) Germany – Officials Say Arrest Foiled Planned Attack by Islamic Extremist

(U) Berlin – German security officials said that they foiled a planned attack by an Islamic extremist after arresting a man in the northern city of Hamburg over the summer who had been trying to buy weapons and make explosives. Hamburg's top security official, Andy Grote, described the incident as very serious. Authorities said the 20-year-old German-Moroccan citizen, whose name was not released, was taken into custody in August after trying to buy a firearm and a hand grenade online. A judge ordered him to be kept in detention on suspicion of breaking firearms laws and indications that he planned to carry out an attack. After his arrest, officers searched his parents' apartment and found Islamic extremist propaganda videos and bomb-making instructions. A separate search at a cousin's home last month in Hamburg uncovered substances used to make explosives and several hundred metal nuts and screws that could have been used as shrapnel.

SOURCE: 12 December 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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